

next week is we have a provision where we can guarantee a greater return than Social Security is now paying retirees. Makes Americans better off not worse off, it creates a fully funded system, and no tax increases.

This is a challenge that we need to deal with. Because of past demographic realities and in order to pay promised benefits, government has too often responded by either increasing taxes or slowly but relentlessly decreasing benefits. It is not fair to current retirees, it is not fair to future retirees to start reducing those benefits. And it is not fair to current or future workers to say we are going to continue to tax you more because we have not adequately planned for the kind of demographics that we are challenged with in Social Security.

Again, let me reemphasize that a country like France that now taxes 51 percent of what that individual worker earns is simply money that effectively comes out of that business operation and that they have to pay for by reducing the wages they pay to employees or by increasing the price that they charge customers that might buy their particular product. So for the three goals that I think we all should agree on, let us have changes that do not reduce benefits for current retirees. Let us develop the kind of changes that are going to keep the program solvent, that are going to increase the benefits for current and future workers as far as their potential increase in retirement income; and let us have a program that is going to help the economy of the United States.

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That means savings and investments, to allow those savings and investments to expand our research efforts and expand the kind of products that we develop that people want to buy and to increase our productivity in this country.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness in the family.

Ms. WOOLSEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through September 12 on account of medical reasons.

Mr. JANKLOW (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mrs. BLACKBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today and September 4.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, September 4, 5, and 9.

Mr. MCCOTTER, for 5 minutes, September 4 and 5.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 523. An Act to make technical corrections to laws relating to Native Americans, and for other purposes; to Committee on Resources.

S. 926. An Act to amend section 5379 of title 5, United States Code, to increase the annual and aggregate limits on student loan repayments by Federal agencies to Committee on Government Reform.

S. 1547. An act to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to make a technical correction with respect to the definition of qualifying State; to Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 1571. An act to increase the Federal Housing Administration mortgage commitment level to carry out the purposes of section 203(b) of the National Housing Act; to Committee on Financial Resources.

S. Con. Res. 25. Concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring America's Jewish community on the occasion of its 350th anniversary, supporting the designation of an "American Jewish History Month", and for other purposes; to Committee on Government Reform.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia on August 1, 2003:

H.R. 1018. An act to designate the building located at 1 Federal Plaza in New York, New York, as the "James L. Watson United States Court of International Trade Building".

H.R. 1761. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9350 East Corporate Hill Drive in Wichita, Kansas, as the "Garner E. Shriver Post Office Building".

H.R. 2465. An act to extend for six months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

H.R. 2859. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003.

Also, Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland on August 5, 2003:

H.R. 1412. An act to provide the Secretary of Education with specific waiver authority to respond to a war or other military operation or national emergency.

H.R. 2195. An act to provide for additional space and resources for national collections held by the Smithsonian Institution, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2738. An act to implement the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement.

H.R. 2739. An act to implement the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement.

H.R. 2854. An act to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend the availability of allotments for fiscal years 1998 through 2001 under the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1015. An act to authorize grants through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for mosquito control programs to prevent mosquito-borne diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 1435. An act to provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on August 7, 2003, he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 1018. To designate the building located at 1 Federal Plaza in New York, New York, as the "James L. Watson United States Court of International Trade Building".

H.R. 1412. To provide the Secretary of Education with specific waiver authority to respond to a war or other military operation or national emergency.

H.R. 1761. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9350 East Corporate Hill Drive in Wichita, Kansas, as the "Garner E. Shriver Post Office Building".

H.R. 2195. To provide for additional space and resources for national collections held by the Smithsonian Institution, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2465. To extend for six months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

H.R. 2854. To amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend the availability of allotments for fiscal years 1998 through 2001 under the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2859. Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003.